

Office of Gifted and Talented

Each year, school districts across the state of South Carolina provide opportunities for parents, teachers, school administrators and professional school counselors to refer students for gifted and talented screening. South Carolina defines gifted and talented and keeps with the National Excellence Report (1995) as:

“Children and youth with outstanding talent perform or show the potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience and environment. (They) exhibit high performance capability in intellectual, creative, and/or artistic areas, possess an unusual leadership capacity/or excel in specific academic fields. They require services not ordinarily provided by the schools. Outstanding talents are present in children and youth from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor.”

The following Silverman/Waters list provides parents with characteristics of gifted students:

Good problem-solving abilities	Sensitivity
Rapid learning ability	Compassion for others
Extensive vocabulary	Perfectionism
Good memory	High degree of energy
Long attention span	Preference for older companions
Wide range of interests	Excellent sense of humor
Early or avid reading ability	Ability in puzzles, mazes, or numbers
At times, seem mature for age	Perseverance in areas of interest

Colleton County School District Referral Window will close on October 16, 2020. Please use the following form to submit your request for your child to be considered for the screening process.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Tracy McDonald, 843-782-4510.



**Parent Referral/Testing Request Form
Colleton County School District
Grades 3-8
Academic Program**



This is a request for my child to be included in the screening process for the possible identification in Colleton County School District's Gifted/Talented Academic Program. I understand that the results of the testing will be used to determine eligibility for the gifted program for the 2020-21 school year. I understand that requests for screening must be returned to the district by mail, postmarked no later than October 16, 2020. **Students who have already met the state requirements to be identified as Gifted/Talented do not need to be retested.**

_____ Date

_____ Parent's Signature

- ❖ Screening is a multi-step process. Students must meet pre-screening qualifications in order to qualify for additional testing. This testing will take place during regular school hours in the months of October and November within our school building. This is a requirement so that we can ensure test fidelity and security. There is no virtual option for us to offer this testing. All safety guidelines for will be followed with regards to COVID. Parents will be notified of the date and time of testing so that we can ensure small group testing to social distance our students. If students are attending school in the blended model, we will schedule a time on the day they are already in the building.
- ❖ Student data will be reviewed by the Evaluation and Placement Committee after all test results are available, and identified students will be eligible for placement into the program.
- ❖ Parents of students in grades 3-8 will be notified by letter by the close of the school year regarding the results of this screening/evaluation process.
- ❖ Parents do not need to request screening for second grade students. All second grade students will undergo testing in October and November. Second grade parents will be notified only if their child qualifies for gifted programming.

PERMISSION TO TEST (PLEASE PRINT)

STUDENT'S NAME (Print)

_____ First _____ Middle _____ Last

DATE OF BIRTH ___/___/___ **Grade Level** ___ **Parent's Phone** _____
M D Y

School: _____ **Teacher's Name:** _____

I give permission for my child, _____, to be evaluated for possible inclusion in the gifted program.

_____ Date _____ Parent's Signature

Please return the form to:
Tracy McDonald, Gifted/Talented Coordinator
Colleton County School District
PO Box 1947
Walterboro, SC 29488

Postmark Deadline: October 16, 2020